

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 10, 2000 LB 1021

Journal page 1675.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Wickersham, to open on FA402.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. Earlier today, I suggested that we should not make our in-laws into outlaws and that they should be within the definition of a relative. I opined that I thought that they were included within the definition that was in the amendment. Others convinced me that, no matter what my opinion was, they thought it was otherwise, and the far better course would be to explicitly list in-laws in the amendment so that we were sure that in fact our in-laws did not become outlaws by giving us gifts and that we would become outlaws as well by accepting those gifts. So the amendment simply inserts fathers-in-law, mothers-in-law, grandfathers-in-law, and grandmothers-in-law as persons who we would consider relatives and would be excepted from the gift-giving provisions. I will tell you quite candidly that, even with this addition, I don't think the amendment covers everything that you could think of with regard to relatives. For example, it doesn't great-grandparents, that is becoming more common, and it doesn't include aunts and uncles or cousins. So I would advise you to be careful as you engage in what you consider to be normal family relationships. Some of those relationships, as you enter into them, may or may not subject you to issues involving the Accountability and Disclosure Act. But I don't think we need to go further this session in attempting to meet all of what our expectations of a relative might be. I think we've improved the provisions and we would improve them a little bit further with this amendment, and would ask for your support.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. You've heard the opening on FA402 to AM3321. Open for discussion. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, it's been my experience, and I think Senator Wickersham alluded a little bit to this, that as you develop a laundry list, at some point in time you end up with mismatched socks; only one pair comes back where you expected two. With that, may I ask if Senator Wickersham would respond to a question?